

Nuoxi language

Nuoxi Yao (Chinese: 郝溪瑶话), or **Nuoxihua** **郝溪话**, is a Kam–Sui language of Nuoxi Township , Dongkou County, Hunan Province, China. Even though they are classified as ethnic Yao people by the Chinese government, the Nuoxi Yao speak a Kam–Sui language closely related to Dong. Shi (2015:132) considers Nuoxi Yao to have split off from Dong about 600 years.

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Nuoxi Yao	
Native to	China
Region	Hunan
Native speakers	2,500 ^[1]
Language family	Kra–Dai <div>Kam–Sui<div>Kam<div>Nuoxi Yao</div></div></div>
Language codes	
ISO 639-3	<i>None</i> (mis)
Glottolog	naxi1247 (http://glottolog.org/resource/language/id/naxi1247) ^[2]

Names

The Nuoxi Yao call themselves the *ɲiu*^[3] (Shi 2015:107) or *mu*² *ɲiu*¹ (Shi 2015:125), and refer to their own language as *kin*¹ (Shi 2015:107). The town of Nuoxi (the first syllable is pronounced *nuó* in Mandarin (Shi 2015:107)) is referred to in the local Hunanese dialect as *lo*² *t*^ɟ *hi*¹.

Demographics

Shi (2015:107) estimates a total of 2,500 speakers and 5,000 ethnic Yao in Nuoxi Township. According to the *Shaoyang Prefecture Gazetteer* (1997), language varieties closely related to Southern Kam are spoken in Nuoxi , Dongkou County (which had 4,280 ethnic Yao in 1982 (Chen 2013:39)) and Lianmin , Suining County.

The *Suining County Gazetteer* [绥宁县志] (1997) documents the variety of Lianmin Yao as spoken in Xiaohuang , Tianluoxuan Village , Lianmin Ethnic Miao and Yao Township , Suining County , Hunan Province, China. It is closely related to Nuoxi Yao.

History

Chen Qiguang (2013:39)^[4] reports that the ancestors of *Nuoxihua* speakers had migrated to their current location from Tianzhu, Liping, and Yuping counties of southeastern Guizhou during the early 15th century. According to Shi Lin (2015:126), the Nuoxi Yao had migrated from Gaoyi Township , Huitong County , Hunan Province in 1403.

See also

- Hunan Kam-Sui languages comparative vocabulary list (contains lexical data of Nuoxi Yao and Lianmin Yao)

References

1. Shi Lin [石林]. 2015. *Three language varieties of the Hunan-Guizhou-Guangxi border region* [湘黔桂边区的三个族群方言岛]. Beijing: China Social Sciences Academy Press [中国社会科学出版社]. ISBN 9787516164945
 2. Hammarström, Harald; Forkel, Robert; Haspelmath, Martin, eds. (2017). "Nuoxi Yao" (<http://glottolog.org/resource/languoid/id/naxi1247>). *Glottolog* 3.0. Jena, Germany: Max Planck Institute for the Science of Human History.
 3. See Proto-Tai language#Tones for an explanation of the tone codes.
 4. Chen, Qiguang [陈其光] (2013). *Miao and Yao language* [苗瑶语文]. Beijing: China Minzu University Press.
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